

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace any previous listing of the claims with the following replacement listing of the claims:

Replacement Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of handling errors arising from parameter write messages for a Fieldbus device, said method comprising:

detecting a group of said parameter write messages that occur closer together than operator initiated parameter write messages; and

suppressing a communication of errors arising from said group of parameter write messages or a rejection of a parameter write operation, wherein said rejection results from any of said errors arising from said group of parameter write messages;

setting a load-mode indicator ON for said group of parameter write messages, wherein said communication of errors or said rejection of a parameter write operation is suppressed in response to said load-mode indicator being ON, wherein said load-mode indicator is set ON and OFF based on a comparison of the times of occurrence of a current parameter write message and a previous parameter write message with a time interval, and wherein said time interval is less than a time period between said operator initiated parameter write messages.

2 and 3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of performing consistency checks of a database of said parameters for errors after said group of parameter write messages has ended; and requesting notification of said consistency check errors.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein at least one of said consistency check errors is a configuration error.

6. (Currently Amended) A Fieldbus device comprising:

a processor, a memory and a load mode identifier that handles errors resulting from parameter write messages, said load identifier performing the operations of:

detecting a group of said parameter write messages that occur closer together than operator initiated parameter write messages; and

suppressing a communication of errors arising from said group of parameter write messages or a rejection of a parameter write message, wherein said rejection results from any of said errors arising from said group of parameter write messages;

performing the operation of setting a load-mode indicator ON for said group of parameter write messages, wherein said communication of errors or said rejection of a parameter write message is suppressed in response to said load-mode indicator being ON, wherein said load-mode indicator is set ON and OFF based on a comparison of the times of occurrence of a current parameter write message and a previous parameter write message with a time interval, and wherein said time interval is less than a time period between said operator initiated parameter write messages.

7 and 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The Fieldbus device of claim 6, wherein the load identifier further performs consistency checks of a database of said parameters for errors after said group of parameter write messages has ended; and requests notification of said consistency check errors.

10. (Original) The Fieldbus device of claim 9, wherein at least one of said consistency check errors is a configuration error.